

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAIGON 08437 140849 Z

14

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W

----- 052716

R 140445 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1616

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 8437

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT MILI VS

SUBJECT: MINH CLAIMS OTHER GENERALS PLAN TO DESTROY HIM

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SAIGON INFO CAN THO DANANG NHA TRANG  
MAY 12 REPEATED FOR YOU

QUOTE BEIN HOA 0125

1. MR 3 CG LTG NGUYEN VAN MINH TODAY TOLD ME THAT A FEW HIGH-RANKING GENERALS ( UNNAMED) ARE PLANNING TO USE THE VIETNAMESE PRESS IN SAIGON TO DESTROY HIM. MINH SAID THAT HE HAS INCONVERTIBLE EVIDENCE THAT CERTAIN " ACCOMMODATING" NEWSPAPERS IN SAIGON ( FOR A PRICE) WILL BE USED TO CARRY STORIES CHARGING HIM WITH INCOMPETENCE AND CORRUPTION. WHEN I ASKED HIM WHY THE GENERALS WOULD WANT TO ATTACK ONE OF THEIR OWN, MINH REPLIED THAT THEY ARE JEALOUS OF HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND THAT THEY HAVE OBVIOUSLY HEARD THAT PRESIDENT THIEU IS NOW CONSIDERING REWARDING HIM BY PINNING ON THE FOURTH STAR. ACCORDING TO MINH, THE LATTER IS WHAT ENGENDERED WHAT HE CALLS A CONSPIRACY.

2. MINH SUGGESTED THAT HIS CLOSE PERSONAL RELATIONS WITH MANY AMERICANS MIGHT ALSO BE ONE OF THE MOTIVATING FACTORS. HE SAID THAT SOME PEOPLE HAVE ADVISED HIM THAT HE APPEARS TO BE TOO DEPENDENT ON AMERICANS AND THAT THIS WAS HURTING HIM PROFESSIONALLY. MINH THEN MADE

THE POINT THAT MANY GENERALS WHO PROFESS TO LIKE AMERICANS HAVE AND WILL CONTINUE TO USE AMERICANS EITHER TO ADVANCE CAREER OBJECTIVES OR

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAIGON 08437 140849 Z

SUPPORT FOR PET PROJECTS, EXCLUDING HIMSELF FROM THIS CATEGORY,  
HOW-  
EVER.

3. I ASKED HIM WHAT EVIDENCE HE HAD TO SUPPORT HIS ALLEGATION. MINH  
SAID THAT A REPORTER FRIEND OF HIS HAD CALLED TO WARN HIM OF THE PLAN.

THE REPORTER, ACCORDING TO MINH, TOLD HIM THAT ONE OR TWO OF THE  
GENERALS HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH AMERICAN FRIENDS ( ALLEGEDLY CIA) FOR  
INFORMATION THEY COULD USE AGAINST HIM. I TOLD MINH THAT NO AMERICAN,  
RPT NO AMERICAN, WOULD BE A PART TO ANY SUCH MOVE.

4. COMMENT: IN ALL THE MONTHS THAT I HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH MINH,

I HAVE NEVER SEEN HIM MORE WORRIED. HE IS VERY DEFINITELY TAKING THIS

SERIOUSLY AND IS CONCERNED ABOUT WHAT IT MIGHT MEAN TO HIS CAREER.  
APART FROM BEING THE TYPICALLY PROUD VIETNAMESE. HE IS A VERY  
SENSITIVE

AND MOODY PERSON AND IS ESPECIALLY CONSCIOUS OF HIS REPUTATION AND  
WHAT

IT MEANS TO HIS FAMILY. I WOULD SUSPECT THAT HIS ENEMIES COULD  
PERHAPS PIN A CORRUPT LABEL ON HIM IF THEY CHOSE TO DO SO. THIS UN-  
QUESTIONABLY WOULD BE THE EASIER OF THE TWO CHARGES TO  
SUBSTANTIATE.

MINH, HOWEVER, HAS ALWAYS BEEN CAREFUL OF HIS FINANCIAL  
TRANSACTIONS,

NOT ONE TO ADVERTISE HIS ACTIVITIES IN THIS REGARD. HE HAS GONE OUT  
OF HIS WAY ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS TO ASSURE ME THAT HE IS NOT CURRUPT.  
HE USUALLY REFERS TO HIS ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE PRIME MINISTER AND  
THE

PRESIDENT HIMSELF AS EVIDENCE OF HIS INCORRUPTIBILITY. MINH CLAIMS  
THAT WHATEVER FUNDS HE REQUIRES FOR ENTERTAINING OR OTHER POSITION-  
CONNECTED ACTIVITIES ARE MADE AVAILABLE BY THE ABOVE AND THAT HE  
DOES NOT QUESTION THE SOURCE OF THE FUNDS.

WALKINSHAW UNQUOTE  
WHITEHOUSE

CONFIDENTIAL

NMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* EXDIS

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:**  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 MAY 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973SAIGON08437  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** RR  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** SAIGON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730544/aaaajdxy.tel  
**Line Count:** 105  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 06 DEC 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <06-Dec-2001 by thigpegh>; APPROVED <28-Dec-2001 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980211  
**Subject:** MINH CLAIMS OTHER GENERALS PLAN TO DESTROY HIM FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SAIGON INFO CAN THO DANANG NHA TRANG MAY 12 REPEATED FOR YOU QUOTE BEIN HOA 0125  
**TAGS:** MILI, PINS, PINT, VS, MILI, PINT  
**To:** SECSTATE WASHDC  
SS  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005